ART:
MAHIRO SATOU

ORIGINAL STORY:
JIN (SHIZEN NO TEKI P)

CHARACTER DESIGN:
SIDU, WANNYANPOO

KAGEROU DAZE

KAGEROU DAZE

13

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CHARACTERS

SHINTARO

A teenage boy who's been holed up in his house for the past two years. Filled with rage after the loss of his sister, he regroups with the Mekakushi-dan after Ene's parting words.

ENE
(Takane Enomoto)

An innocent, naive "digital girl" who's taken up residence in Shintaro's computer. Disappears after Takane's death, leaving Shintaro to carry on her and Haruka's hopes.

MOMO

An ultra-popular singer with the "drawing eyes" ability. Shintaro's sister. Died after the "clearing eyes" snake dropped her off a building.

KIDO

Leader of the Mekakushi-dan. Possesses the "concealing eyes" ability. Killed when attacked by the "clearing eyes" snake.

KANO

Friends with Kido and Seto since childhood. Possesses the "deceiving eyes" ability.

SETO

A young man engaged in assorted part-time work. Possesses the "stealing eyes" ability. Always looking out for Marie's welfare.

MARIE

A young Medusa whose "locking eyes" ability lets her freeze people in their tracks.

KONOHA
(Haruka Kokonose)

A friend of Takane and Shintaro back when he was still Haruka. After an illness took his life, he worked with the Mekakushi-dan under the name Konoha.

HIBIYA

A boy who's come to visit the neighborhood with Hiyori. Controlled by the "clearing eyes" snake, he is killed when he is forced to leap into the path of a truck.

HIYORI

A girl who's come to visit Shintaro's neighborhood. A big fan of Momo. Infused with the "focusing eyes" ability.

AYANO

A girl whose "favoring eyes" ability lets her directly transmit feelings and emotions to others. She separated from Kano and the rest after trying to kill Marie but later made amends with and rejoined the Mekakushi-dan.

STORY

The tale of the events of August 14 and 15.

Shintaro and Momo run into a pair of children, Hibiya and Hiyori. They soon become friends, but after relaying a cryptic message to Momo over the phone, Hiyori disappears. They later discover Hibiya alone and unconscious, but he has lost his memory of the recent past. On the same day, Shintaro and Momo come across Kido and Kano, who claim to be part of a secret organization. They are also pursuing Hibiya and Hiyori, and soon the entire group's goals, destinies, and anxieties crisscross—and it's all connected by a supernatural phenomenon known as "Kagerou Daze."

As Hibiya searches for the missing Hiyori, a mysterious girl approaches him. Using her ability to impart memories and emotions directly into anyone she wants, she reveals the truth behind the Kagerou Daze. She fears a snake with the "clearing eyes" ability is attempting to unite all the snakes that gave the rest of this group their own eerie skills into a single entity—and now it might be here, in the "worst possible form."

When Kano and Momo do find Hiyori, the scene is like something out of their worst nightmares: Hiyori, covered in blood, standing in front of a lifeless Kido. As he carries the fainted Momo back, Kano tells Ene about the lives of the Mekakushi-dan and how the snake has affected all of them.

After awakening to their skills, Kido, Kano, and Seto spent their early years at a juvenile home. Ayaka, a researcher studying the Medusa myths of the past, decided to adopt the three of them, making them siblings to her own daughter, Ayano.

Kido, Kano, Seto, and Ayano form the Mekakushi-dan, living as brothers and sisters despite any real blood relation. They are later joined by Marie, who stays on after suddenly being brought to their doorstep.

Once she realizes Marie is the child of a Medusa and that the children's abilities might affect their well-being—and their lives—Ayano resolves to protect her brothers and sisters.

However, en route to Marie's home in search of clues that might explain the children's abilities, Ayano and her parents are killed in an accident. Swallowed up by the Kagerou Daze, Ayano gains her own eye ability along with an insight into the true nature of the Kagerou Daze. In light of what she has learned, Ayano determines the only way to put an end to the tragedy is to kill Marie. The other children vehemently refuse, but she presses on, chasing after the "clearing eyes" snake.

Meanwhile, Shintaro attempts to track down Momo, who has gone off to search for Hiyori. Kano tells him that the "focusing eyes" ability has housed itself within Hiyori, not Hibiya. Just as he does, Shintaro spots Momo falling off of the building he's in—as Hibiya's maniacal laughter echoes from the up on the roof. The "clearing eyes" snake that killed Kido and Momo had instilled itself inside Hibiya, not Ayano.

As the group reels from Momo's death, Konoha appears. He apparently doesn't remember Ene, who then reveals that she was once Takane Enomoto, a friend of Konoha's back when he still lived as Haruka Kokonose.

I CAN'T LET THE DESPAIR RUN OUT...
THE DESPAIR THAT'S THE SOURCE OF THOSE WISHES.
SO I THOUGHT TO MYSELF:
IF I DON'T LET THE WISH BE FULFILLED IT ALL WORKS OUT.
THAT IS MY GOAL.

With Shintaro paralyzed by Momo's death, the "clearing eyes" snake reveals its intentions to Ayano. It and all the other snakes are obligated to fulfill their duty to make people's wishes come true. Thus, "clearing eyes" has sought to sow despair, the root emotion driving all wishes, in order to prevent the snakes from disappearing.

Marie's deep desperation has attracted the snake, who intends to make her its master.

As the snake declares that no one can stop this tale of despair, Konoha, Ene, and Hiyori arrive on the scene. The tables seem to have turned in their favor, but the "clearing eyes" snake throws itself into the path of an oncoming truck as it flees—and a smiling, black-haired Konoha emerges from the flames.

Hiyori and Ayano visit Kano and the rest in their hideout. Hiyori's optimism restores Kano's spirits, and she suggests that he speak with Ayano himself. Realizing their feelings are the same, Kano and Ayano patch things up, and they decide to work out their future strategy together. Ayano suggests using Marie's Medusa abilities to their advantage.

Meanwhile, Shintaro is obsessed with securing revenge for his sister Momo's death. The sight prompts Ene to open up about her own past. With Takane at death's door, Ene expresses her feelings for Haruka and her gratitude toward Shintaro. Shintaro responds in kind, tears in his eyes, as Ene disappears with a smile.

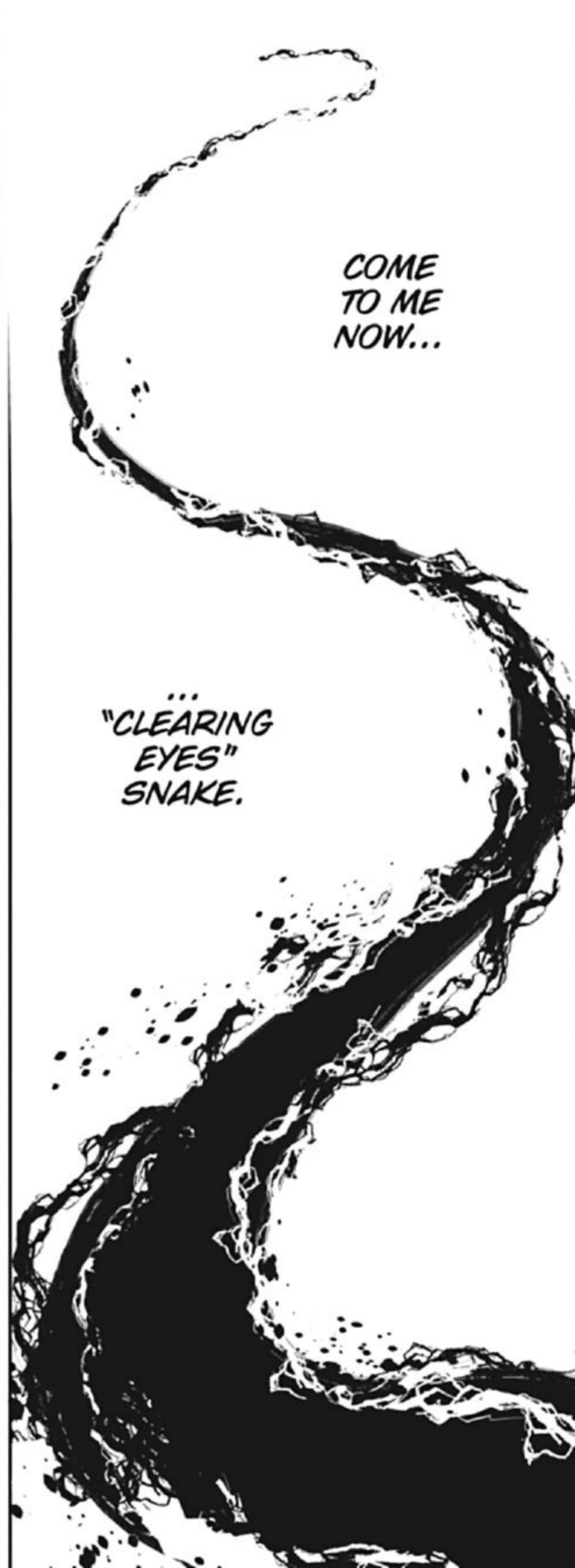
Back at the Mekakushi-dan hideout, Shintaro joins the team to fight "clearing eyes" and save Ayano. The group finally begins to strike back.

NOW YOU'RE TRYING TO USE ME TO AWAKEN MY MEDUSA SELF.
YOU WANT TO TAKE THIS WORLD THAT CHANGED AZAMI FOR GOOD...
...AND MAKE IT SO IT NEVER EXISTED.

When the snake charges into the abandoned base, Marie finally sees their adversary for what it is. It claims "this script can no longer be rewritten," but an angered Marie declares all-out war, using her Medusa force to lure it to the site of the final battle.

KAGEROU DAZE

65 >> IMAGINARY RELOAD II


COME TO ME NOW...
...
"CLEARING EYES" SNAKE.

WE...

...ARE READY TO FIGHT YOU.

HENA (SLUMP)
ヘナ…

MARIE!

FU (FFT)

100%

WELL, SOMEONE'S BEEN BUSY, HUH?

I'M STARTING TO LIKE YOU A LITTLE.

OHHH, I WAS SO NERVOUS...

AAAH...

AND ALL WITH A PRETTY IMPRESSIVE DEGREE OF CONTROL...

"CONCEALING," "DRAWING," AND "AWAKENING" ...

SHE USED THREE EYE ABILITIES AT ONCE!

...I'M NOT AT AZAMI'S LEVEL JUST YET.

THAT'S MARIE FOR YOU, HUH?

YOU'RE THE REAL THING, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

NIKO (GRIN)

I'M FINE, I'M FINE.

JUST A LITTLE SPENT, THAT'S ALL.

UM, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY, MARIE?

DON'T OVERDO IT, OKAY?

THANK YOU!

I'M SUPER-IMPRESSED, SHINTARO-KUN.

Y'KNOW, THOUGH...

...GUESSING WHAT OUR FOE WOULD DO, LIKE, THE MINUTE WE GAVE YOU THE FULL STORY...

COMING HERE REALLY WAS A GOOD IDEA.

...AND I'M GLAD WE AREN'T JUST RUNNING ANYMORE.

THAT GUY WENT FOR AN ALL-OUT ATTACK...

YES...

YOUR IDEA TO INSTILL AZAMI'S MEMORIES INTO MARIE...

I NEVER WOULD HAVE COME UP WITH IT.

...IT'LL HAVE TO COME HERE FOR US.

BUT NOW THAT I'M ITS ONLY TARGET...

NOW WE CAN FINALLY FIGHT ON AN EVEN PLAYING FIELD.

IF WE JUST RAN...

...IT MIGHT TAKE INNOCENT PEOPLE HOSTAGE...

...OR BLOW UP THE TOWN AS A LESSON TO US.

MARIE...

I COULD NEVER LET IT DO THAT.

SO THANKS FOR LETTING ME HAVE MY WAY...

...AND TEACHING ME HOW TO BATTLE THIS OUT.

...IF YOU HADN'T COME HERE FOR US...

...I'D HAVE NOTHING TO FIGHT BACK WITH.

...SHIN-TARO...

BESIDES ...

...THE REAL BATTLE STARTS NOW.

HEY, DON'T GIVE ME TOO MUCH CREDIT.

...SO I JUST BUTTED IN A LITTLE.

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO FIGHT...

HAAH...

NO TIME FOR A NAP, HUH?

TRUE...

WE'VE GOT TEN MINUTES, I'D SAY.

CHUN (CHIRP)

CHUN

THE ONE WHO MUST BE REALLY ANXIOUS ...

...IS HER.

...YOU OKAY?

...ME? OH, YEAH.

I'M GREAT.

GACHA (KCHAK)

カ!!

チャ!!

YEAH.

IT REALLY TAKES ME BACK.

...PRETTY.

...YOU KNOW...

...I NEVER USED TO LIKE THIS VIEW.

BACK WHEN I WAS ALONE...

...I STOOD HERE, WATCHING THE SUN RISE EVERY DAY.

AND WHEN I DID, ALL I COULD THINK WAS...

..."WELL, ANOTHER DAY WHERE I WON'T SEE ANYONE"...

...AND, "I WISH THIS DAY NEVER HAD TO BEGIN."...

...IT MAKES ME FEEL REALLY LONELY.

...BUT THINKING THAT I MIGHT NEVER SEE THIS VIEW AGAIN...

BUT...

I CAN'T SAY WHY...

SU (SHD)

!!!

WE'LL GET TO SEE IT TOMORROW.

AND THE NEXT DAY...

AND THE NEXT...

TOGETHER.

GYU (SQUEEZE)

...YEAH.

KILL!

KILL!
KILL!
KILL!
KILL!
KILL!
KILL!
KILL!
KILL!

WELCOME...

"COM-
MAND-
ING
EYES"!